

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 12-20 with the following:

--Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a block diagram of one embodiment of the method of the present invention; and

Figure 2 is a diagrammatic illustration of a time frame according to one embodiment of the present invention.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 4 with the following:

--In the exemplary embodiment shown in Figure 1, the transmission and reception sections 50, 51 both of a central data station C (CENTRAL) and of a peripheral data station R (REMOTE) are illustrated in a single block diagram, which should be understood such that the central data station C is connected to the peripheral data station R via the transformer 13, the two-wire line 100, and a further transformer 13. Those functional units that are associated only with the data station C or R are identified by "ATU-C only" or "ATU-R only".--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 22 with the following:

--The transmission section 50 and the reception section 51 are controlled by a Time Division Multiplex (TDM) unit 30, with the result that, according to the invention, the data to be transmitted and the data to be received are separated by time division multiplex operation. The associated multiplex time frame is subdivided into a predeterminable number N of time slots. Of these, a number K of time slots of the time

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frame are assigned exclusively to one transmission direction, for example transmit, while the remaining number of N-K of time slots are assigned exclusively to the other transmission direction, for example receive. For this purpose, the TDM unit controls the transmission section 50 and the reception section 51 by activating them at the given time. In this case, the transmission section 50 and the reception section 51 are never in operation at the same time. As a result, the processor power required for the control can be designed to be correspondingly low. Since influencing of the receiver by its own transmitter is also precluded as a result, only a low resolution is necessary for the analog-to-digital converter 16 of the receiver section. This advantage is highly cost-effective on account of the direct proportionality of resolution and price in the case of analog-to-digital converters.—
